


STATE OF UTAH DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	NO.: NR-20-D-12	NO. PAGES: 2
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SUBJECT: UTAH'S WATERSHED RESTORATION INITIATIVE PROCEDURES		
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I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide uniform policies and procedures for the Department's statewide management of Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative.

II. WRI OVERVIEW

- A. Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) is a partnership based program in Utah to improve high priority watersheds throughout the state. WRI has been in existence since 2006 and focuses on improving three ecosystem values: 1) watershed health and biological diversity, 2) water quality and yield, and 3) opportunities for sustainable uses of natural resources. WRI is an initiative where project planning, review, and ranking occur at a regional level. Five regional teams elect their own leaders, establish focus areas, review, score and rank project proposals using a comprehensive project prioritization score sheet, and assist their members in implementing projects.

III. PROCEDURES

A. WRI Administrative Structure

1. WRI is a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administration level program that receives oversight from the DNR Executive Director and is managed by a single DNR employee (WRI Director).
2. The WRI administrative team consists of the WRI Director, the DWR Habitat Conservation Coordinator, the DWR Habitat Conservation Projects Biologist as well as the DWR Archaeologist.
3. General duties of the WRI administrative team include:
 - a. Oversight of WRI region teams and their operating charters
 - development of statewide restoration priorities and project proposal process

- b. Maintenance of WRI events calendar and project tracking websites (watershed.utah.gov) (wri.utah.gov)
- c. Organization and oversight of the biennial WRI statewide workshop
- d. Funding assignment and budget/spending management/tracking
- e. Partner contract support/reporting/tracking for incoming and outgoing project funds
- f. Cultural resource project compliance
- g. Media, partner, executive and legislative performance reporting and program information
- h. Ranking criteria and partner interface
- i. Project manager training and technical support
- j. Project completion and reporting tracking
- k. Reporting to the DNR Executive Director WRI's performance and funding recommendations

B. WRI Regional Teams

1. WRI supports five regional teams as part of the program's overall structure.
2. Each regional team has individual team charters that outline their team's operating structure. Each charter includes rules and procedures for; leadership elections/terms, project presentation/ranking, focus area creation and amendments, meeting frequency and voting membership rules. Current team charters are available to the public at watershed.utah.gov.
3. Regional team's general duties includes the sharing of information across agency and ownership boundaries as it relates to the active management of Utah's natural resources. To accomplish this, the regional teams host several meetings and field tours throughout the year.
4. Each regional team compiles and manages an email list of participants and uses this list to communicate important information from both WRI regional leadership and WRI administration.